

MAY 4 2 19

PUBLISHED - Approved For Release

STAR-JOURNAL

EVENING CO. 15

SUNDAY 4

## Cuba Failure

IN THE New York Post, April 11, a columnist, William V. Shannon, who, according to Sen. Peter Dominick, is rather noted for his support of the present administration, wrote an analysis of the Cuban situation.

Sen. Dominick believes that in view of the "complete confusion on the part of the American public as to what we are doing or what we are not doing in terms of trying to regain for the Cuban people, themselves, the control of their own government," the article deserves wide circulation. It was reprinted in the Congressional Record and is as follows:

planned and carried out. Instead, the administration did nothing. The 18 wasted months from April 1961 to October 1962, are in my opinion, a worse offense on the administration's record than the defeat of the Bay of Pigs invasion. What had happened appeared to be a firm resolve to get rid of Castro proved, after only one setback to be made of jelly.

The only conclusion drawn from the events of April 1961, was that clandestine operations are impossible in a democracy. The exiles and the underground were simply written off as too divided and unmanageable. Micawberism—"Maybe something will turn up"—reigned.

What turned up were the Russian missiles. Khrushchev had not wasted those 18 months. Mr. Kennedy was able to force the Russians to withdraw the missiles by going to the edge of nuclear war. We are all grateful to him that his resolute firmness in October succeeded, but he is scarcely entitled to any credit for handling Cuban affairs in such a way that they produced a nuclear crisis. The introduction of the Soviet missiles completely exposed the shallowness of those, in the administration and in the general public, who thought we could happily co-exist with a Communist Cuba. Because we permitted Castro to stay in power, Khrushchev very nearly outflanked us on our defenseless southern border.

The long-range missiles are presumably gone, but Cuba is far stronger militarily than it was two years ago. We cannot get rid of Castro because his safety has now become linked with Khrushchev's prestige. Cuba has become like Berlin, a hostage in the cold war. The suppression of the Cuban raiders and the dropping of poor Miro Cardona constitute the final admission that we have met total defeat on the Cuban front. The Cuban people have been left to the mercies of their bearded tyrant.

(On May 9, the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee said Soviet missiles might be hidden in Cuban caves and questioned the Central Intelligence Agency's evaluation of the Red threat there.)

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